

2 September 71

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SPECIAL INFORMATION REPORTNational Governor's Conference at Puerto Rico, from 12-15 September 1971

An anonymous telephone call was received at the office of the executive director of the Puerto Rican National Governor's Conference last March tenth. The caller demanded that work cease on the National Conference and that "we will make trouble for you" if you bring the governors to Puerto Rico. The caller threatened that the governors might all be killed.

FBI IN 284960 20d 11 March 71

More specific acts of terrorism have since been detailed by two or more informants of the FBI. Under the auspices and guidance of several radical left-wing Puerto Rican independence movement organizations (The Movimiento Pro Independencia de Puerto Rico, The Partido Independentista Puerto Riqueno, The Partido Autentico Soberanista, and The Federacion Estudiantil Pro Independencia) reportedly, violence, and possibly assassination and kidnapping are slated to occur.

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According to the son of Juan Mari Bras, secretary general of the Movimiento Pro Independencia, riots and bloodshed on the campus of the University of Puerto Rico will coincide with the opening of the conference on September twelfth. This diversionary tactic is expected to draw police and security forces from the hotel district where the governor's conference is being held. Reportedly, high school as well as junior high school students have been enlisted to assist in the disruption on the campus.

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Sources report that propagandizing against the presence of the governors will begin on September sixth through acts of vandalism and destruction, particularly attacks on American establishments in San Juan. During the conference, activists will protest continued "exploitation" of Puerto Rico. Violence is definitely being incited. Joaquin Parrilla, an independence activist, has stated that the governors should be greeted with bombs instead of flowers.

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Observations

Reports of this type have in the past often tended to be over pessimistic. Many reported plans of antiwar activists in the United States for instance, received from FBI sources, have simply not come off as severely as indicated by informants reporting to the FBI. Puerto Rico, of course, presents a more complex situation. Movements for independence (usually of a Marxist-Leninist flavor) as well as movements for statehood (proportionately fewer in recent years) have been part of Puerto Rican political reality since way before the homegrown U.S. protests of the early 1960's.

It can be reasonably concluded that Puerto Rican radicals will not miss the forum presented by the presence on the island of the governors. There will be protest demonstrations at San Juan conducted by the several organizations and it can be assumed that those responsible for the security of the conferees will be prepared for the worst. The worst, interpreted as bodily harm to the conferees, will probably not occur, but prudence on the part of those attending is certainly warranted.